providing an elongated tubular guide member having a proximal end, a curved distal end, a port in the distal end, an inner lumen extending through the guide member to and in fluid communication with the port in the distal end,

providing a tubular containment member slidably disposed within the inner lumen of the tubular guide member

advancing the tubular containment member out of the distal end of the tubular guide member and disposing a distal portion of the tubular containment member about a length of the aortic aneurysm.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the containment member is positioned ~~to apply resistive force to the tissue site~~ to resist further expansion of the aortic aneurysm.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~2~~ 1 wherein the ~~force~~ containment member applies pressure ~~is compressive~~ against ~~the~~ an exterior surface of the ~~site~~ aortic aneurysm.

5 – 8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~5~~ 1 wherein the containment member at least partially encloses the ~~exterior surface~~ of the length of the ~~tissue site~~ aortic aneurysm.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~5~~ 1 wherein the containment member is secured at least in part to the ~~tissue site~~ aortic aneurysm.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim ~~5~~ 1 wherein the containment member is configured to ~~further extended~~ extend beyond the aortic aneurysm to an adjacent tissue site.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Original) The method of Claim 13 wherein the containment member is further secured at least in part to the adjacent tissue site.

16 - 38. (Cancelled)

39. (Original) A method for treating a vulnerable tissue site of an intracorporeal tubular member, comprising:

providing a support member;

providing a containment member;

disposing the support member along the interior lumen of the tubular member along at least a portion thereof which includes the vulnerable tissue site;

disposing the containment member about an exterior surface of the vulnerable tissue site so as to at least partially cover at least a portion of the exterior surface of the tissue site.

40. (Original) The method of Claim 39 wherein the containment member is further disposed in part on a tissue site adjacent the vulnerable tissue site.

41. (Original) The method of Claim 40 wherein the containment member extends along at least a portion of the vulnerable tissue site.

42. (Original) The method of Claim 41 wherein the containment member is longitudinally disposed on either side of the support member.

43. (Original) The method of Claim 39 wherein the support member has an outer and an inner surface and an inner lumen defined by the inner surface and configured for passage of fluid therethrough.

44. (Original) The method of Claim 40 wherein the containment member defines a neck on the vulnerable tissue site on at least one end of the containment member.

45. (Original) The method of Claim 44 wherein the support member abuts the neck formed by the containment member.

46. (Currently Amended) A ~~containment member~~ system for containing a region of ~~a vulnerable tissue of predetermined dimensions, and providing a containment surface of sufficient dimensions to at least partially encircle the region of vulnerable tissue~~ a patient's aortic aneurysm, comprising:

an elongated tubular guide member having a proximal end, a distal end, a curved distal portion, a port in the distal end, an inner lumen extending through the guide member to and in fluid communication with the port in the distal end; and

an elongated containment member slidably disposed in the inner lumen of the tubular guide member which is configured to be advanced out the port in the distal end of the guide member and be disposed about an exterior surface over the aortic aneurysm.

47. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 46 wherein the containment member includes at least one free end.

48. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of claim 47 wherein the at least one free end of the containment member [includes at least one] is configured to be atraumatic ~~end~~.

49. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 46 wherein the containment member comprises a strand.

50. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 49 wherein the strand forms a tubular member.

51. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 49 wherein the strand includes a wire member.

52. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 49 wherein the strand includes a ribbon member.

53. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of any one of Claims 49, 50, 51, or 52 wherein the strand includes a plurality of longitudinally oriented strands transversely spaced apart and attached to an adjacent strand with an attachment mean.

54. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 53 wherein the longitudinally oriented strands have a width ranging from about 0.001 to about 2 centimeters.

55. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of any one of Claims 49, 50, 51, or 52 wherein the strand includes a plurality of longitudinally oriented strands transversely spaced apart and a plurality of transversely oriented strands longitudinally spaced apart, the longitudinally oriented strands connected to one another by at least one of the transversely oriented strands.

56. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 55 wherein the longitudinally oriented and transversely oriented strands have a width, independently, ranging from about 0.0001 to about 2 centimeters.

57. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of any one of Claims 49, 50, 51, or 52 wherein the strand is formed of a material from the group consisting of polymers, metals, shape memory alloys, bio-degradable material, and a combination thereof.

58. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 56 wherein the shape memory alloy includes nickel titanium.

59. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of any one of Claims 49, 50, 51, or 52 wherein the strand is in the form of a coil.

60. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 59 wherein the coil has a constant diameter.

61. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 59 wherein the coil has a variable diameter.

62. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 59 wherein the coil is tapered at either or both ends.

63. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 59 wherein at least some of the turns of the coil when disposed about the exterior of the tissue site wrap around the circumference of the tissue site.

64. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 59 wherein the turns of the coil when disposed about the exterior of the tissue site form an arcuate structure.

65. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 59 wherein the coil in a relaxed configuration has a pitch between adjacent turns ranging from about 0.002 to about 20 centimeters.

66. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 65 wherein the pitch ranges from about 0.002 to about 2 cm.

67. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 65 wherein the pitch ranges from about 2 to about 10 cm.

68. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 65 wherein the pitch ranges from about 10 to about 20 cm.

69. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 65 wherein the coil has a variable pitch.

70. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 65 wherein the containment member has means to secure the adjacent turns of the coil.

71. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 70 wherein the securing means includes any one of coil, wire, or strand.

72. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 49 wherein the containment member has a longitudinal dimension ranging from about 1 mm to about 30 cm.

73. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 49 wherein the containment member includes multiple lumens.

74. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 73 wherein at least one of the multiple lumens is configured to be an inflation lumen, a therapeutic fluid delivery lumen, or a strand lumen.

75. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 49 wherein the containment member has outer and inner surfaces defining at least in part a wall, a lumen disposed within the wall, and a containment ~~surfaces~~ surface defined at least in part by the inner surface of the wall.

76. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 75 wherein the containment member is configured to deliver therapeutic fluids to the tissue site.

77. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 75 wherein the lumen defined by the containment member inner and outer surfaces is a

fluid lumen, either or both the containment member outer and inner surfaces including at least one aperture fluidically connectable to the containment member fluid lumen.

78. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 77 wherein the aperture size ranges from about 1 micron to about 2 millimeters.

79. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 78 wherein the aperture size ranges from about 1 micron to about 1 cm.

80. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 77 wherein the fluid lumen is fluidically connectable to a source of therapeutic fluid.

81. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 50 wherein the containment member has an outer diameter and an inner diameter defined by the inner surface.

82. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 81 wherein the inner diameter is configured to have a variable dimension.

83. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 82 wherein the containment member has outer and inner surfaces and a fluid lumen defined therebetween and a containment lumen defined by the inner surface, and the inner diameter of the containment member is decreased upon the expansion of the containment member fluid lumen.

84. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 83 wherein the fluid lumen is fluidically connectable to a source of inflation lumen.

85. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 49 wherein the containment member further includes a sleeve disposed on at least a portion of an exterior surface of the containment member.

86. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 85 wherein the sleeve includes multiple lumens.

87. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 86 wherein at least one of the multiple lumens of the sleeve is configured to be an inflation lumen.

88. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 85 wherein the sleeve has an inner and outer surface and an inner lumen disposed therebetween.

89. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 88 wherein the containment member has an inner diameter defined by an inner surface of the containment member, the containment member inner diameter decreasing upon the expansion of the sleeve inner lumen.

90. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 89 wherein the sleeve inner lumen is fluidically connectable to a source of inflation fluid.

91. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 75 wherein the containment member is configured to at least partially encircle at least a portion of the tissue site.

92. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 91 wherein the containment member is configured to at least partially encircle at least a portion of a tissue site adjacent the vulnerable tissue site.

93. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 75 wherein the containment member inner surface has a curvature substantially less than 360°.

94. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 75 wherein the containment member inner surface includes an adhesion promoter.

95. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 94 wherein the adhesion promoter is selected from the group consisting of fibrin and cyanoacrylates.

96. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 50 wherein the containment member has an outer surface defining an outer diameter and an inner surface defining an inner diameter.

97. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 96 wherein the vulnerable tissue site a has a first thickness and a tissue site adjacent the vulnerable tissue site has a second thickness.

98. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 97 wherein the dimension of the inner diameter of the containment member in a relaxed configuration is substantially the same or slightly larger than the thickness of the vulnerable tissue site.

99. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 97 wherein the dimension of the inner diameter of the containment member in a relaxed configuration is substantially larger than the thickness of the vulnerable tissue site.

100. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 99 wherein the dimension of the inner diameter of the containment member in a relaxed configuration is about 25% larger than the thickness of the vulnerable tissue site.

101. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 97 wherein the dimension of the inner diameter of the containment member in a relaxed configuration is substantially between the first thickness of the vulnerable tissue site and second thickness of the adjacent tissue site.

102. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 97 wherein the dimension of the inner diameter of the containment member in a relaxed configuration is substantially the same as the second thickness of the adjacent tissue site.

103. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 97 wherein the dimension of the inner diameter of the containment member in a relaxed configuration is slightly less than the second thickness of the adjacent tissue site.

104. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 97 wherein the dimension of the inner diameter of the containment member in a relaxed configuration is about 10% less than the second thickness of the adjacent tissue site.

105. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 101 wherein the vulnerable and adjacent tissue sites are part of a first tubular member and

the first and second thicknesses are defined by outer diameters of the vulnerable and adjacent tissue sites, respectively.

106. (Currently Amended) The system ~~containment member~~ of Claim 77 wherein the aperture is configured to delivered hardenable material to the exterior surface of vulnerable tissue site.

107 - 116. (Cancelled)

117. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~116~~ 1 wherein the ~~curve is formed within up to~~ curved portion of the elongated tubular guide member extends from the about 2 mm to about 20 cm [of the catheter] from the distal end thereof.

118. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~116~~ 1 wherein the ~~distal end~~ curved portion of the elongated tubular guide member has a radius of curvature ranging from about 0.5 to about 3 cm.

119. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~116~~ 1 wherein the ~~distal end~~ curved portion of the elongated tubular guide member is configured to have an angle ranging from about -180° ~~degrees~~ to +180° ~~degrees~~.

120. (Currently Amended) The system of Claim ~~116~~ 1 wherein the ~~catheter~~ elongated tubular guide member has multiple deflection points.

121. (New) An elongated containment device for disposition about a patient's aortic aneurysm, comprising:

at least one longitudinally oriented supporting strand, and

a plurality of transversely oriented encircling connecting members configured to hold at least one oriented supporting strand about the aortic aneurysm to prevent further expansion of the aortic aneurysm.

122. (New) The containment device of claim 121 which includes a plurality of longitudinally oriented supporting strands.

123. (New) The containment device of claim 121 wherein the transversely oriented encircling connecting members are secured to at least one longitudinally oriented strands;

124. (New) The containment device of claim 121 which includes a sheath which is disposed within the encircling connecting members and which is configured to be secured against at least part of the exterior of the aortic aneurysm.

125. (New) The containment device of claim 124 wherein the the longitudinally oriented supporting strands are formed integral with the sheath.

126. (New) The containment device of claim 124 wherein the sheath is formed of film or fabric.

127. (New) The containment device of claim 124 wherein the sheath is secured to at least one of the longitudinally oriented strands.

128. (New) The containment device of claim 121 wherein at least two of the transversely oriented connecting members are interconnected by a linking member.

129. (New) The containment device of claim 121 which has at least three longitudinally oriented supporting strands.

130. (New) A method for treating a patient's aortic aneurysm, comprising:

providing a support structure within the interior of the aortic passageway passing through the patient's aneurysm; and

applying a containment member on the exterior of the patient's aortic aneurysm about the region supported by the support structure and coextension with at least an intermediate portion thereof.

131. (New) A method for treating a patient's aortic aneurysm, comprising supporting a containment member adjacent an exterior position of vulnerable tissue of the aneurysm from an intracorporeal location.

132. (New) The method of claim 131 wherein the containment member is supported from an adjacent bone or healthy tissue location.

133. (New) The method of claim 132 wherein the containment member is supported from an intracorporeal location by one or more strands

134. (New) The method of claim 133 wherein the strands are formed of suture material.

135. (New) The method of claim 132 wherein the containment member is supported from an intracorporeal location by a strut member.

REMARKS

No new matter is introduced by the above amendments. Support for the new claims 121-130 is found on page 21, lines 7-16, page 23, lines 6-21 and Figures 9, 14, 15A, 15B and 16. Support for claims 130-139 is found on page 24, line 15 to page 25, line 16.

Applicants believe that the above pending claims are directed to patentable subject matter. Initial consideration and an early allowance of these claims are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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